

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) In an electrically-powered device having a liquid-crystal display (LCD) comprising a driver and a plurality of pixels, wherein the optical characteristics of the liquid crystal associated with each pixel are defined by the selective local application of an electrical charge, the electrically-powered device for communicating with a communications network, a method of conserving electrical power comprising the steps of:

receiving, in a driver of the LCD, data from the communications network, the data containing an image for display on the LCD;

determining that a power-conservation mode is appropriate according to predetermined criteria, the predetermined criteria comprising signals received from a the communications network external to the electrically-powered device; , the signals generated by the communications network upon detection of a device transmission signal lower than a predetermined threshold;

analyzing the image data in a microprocessor of the LCD driver to determine the pixel-charging sequence required to produce the image associated with the image data;


automatically entering power-conservation mode by modifying the pixel-activation sequence to reduce the number of pixels to which voltage is to be supplied; and

displaying on the LCD an image created by the modified pixel-activation sequence.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criteria ~~received from the communication network~~ for entering the power-conservation mode is ~~communications network~~ further comprises receipt of a user-entered instruction to enter power-conservation mode.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criteria ~~received from the communications network~~ for entering the power conservation mode is ~~communications network receipt of~~ further comprises a low-power indication generated within the device.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criteria for entering a power conservation mode is ~~communications network receipt of~~ further comprises a reduce-power signal.

 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
determining that leaving ~~power consumption~~ the power-conservation mode is appropriate according to predetermined criteria; and
leaving ~~power consumption~~ the power-conservation mode by returning to full power for all pixels.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of selectively alternating the subset of no-power pixels.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criteria for entering power-conservation mode includes an indication of the level of ambient light.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined criteria for entering power conservation mode includes an automatically-generated timing signal.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subset of no-power pixels is selected according to the image being displayed.

10. (Cancel)

11. (Cancel)

12. (Cancel)

13. (Currently Amended) An improved portable electronic device for communicating with a communication network ~~external to the portable electronic device~~ comprising:

a receiver for receiving information from the communications network;

a liquid-crystal display (LCD) comprising a plurality of pixels for displaying images according to the information received from the communications network; and

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an LCD driver for receiving the received information and translating at least a portion of the information into instructions for selectively activating the pixels in order to produce an image, wherein the LCD driver determines if a power-conservation mode has been automatically selected, the power-conservation mode determined to be automatically selected, the power-conservation mode determined to be automatically selected if signals generated by the communications network upon detection of a device transmission signal lower than a predetermined threshold, and, if so, modifies the instructions accordingly.

14. (Cancel)

15. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 13, wherein the automatic selection of power-conservation mode is further responsive to a low-battery indication.

16. (Cancel)

17. (Cancel)

18. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein the instruction modification performed if power-conservation mode has been selected includes omitting a predetermined number of pixel-activations.

19. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 18, wherein the number of omitted pixel-activations is determined as a first selected percentage of the total number of pixels to be charged during a first defined portion of the pixel-activation sequence.

20. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein approximately fifty percent of the pixel-activations are omitted.

21. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein a second selected percentage of the total number of pixels to be activated determines the omitted pixel-activations in a second defined portion of the pixel-activation sequence.
